

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in the application.

Claims 3-7 and 10-13 are considered to have allowable subject matter.

Claims 3-4, 6-7, 10-11 and 13 have been amended to independent form. Claim 5 and 12 each depend from an allowable independent claim. Claims 3-7 and 10-13 are in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.


Claims 1, 2, 8, 9 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) by Tamamura et al. (US 6,535,566). Claims 1, 2, 8, 9 and 14 have been cancelled obviating the rejection.

Please charge the amount of \$344.00 for four extra independent claims to Deposit Account 50-1290.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,


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